



MEDIA RELEASE

Tucson Fire Department

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Don't Let Your Barbeque Go Up In Flames

As you gear up for a backyard barbeque take some simple precautions to ensure the safety of your friends and family.

According to the NFPA, gas and charcoal grills caused an average of 1,000 structure fires and 3,400 outdoor fires in or on home properties in recent years. To make sure your next barbecue doesn't go up in flames, the Tucson Fire Department recommends the following safety tips:

- Designate the grilling area a "No Play Zone" keeping kids and pets well away until grill equipment is completely cool.
- Position your grill at least 3 feet away from other objects, including the house and any shrubs or bushes before using.
- Only use starter fluid made for barbecue grills when starting a fire in a charcoal grill.
- Check the connection between the propane tank and the fuel line to be sure it is working properly and not leaking.
- Never use a match to check for leaks. If you detect a leak, immediately turn off the gas and don't attempt to light the grill again until the leak is fixed.
- Never bring a barbecue grill indoors, or into any unventilated space. This is both a fire and carbon monoxide poisoning hazard.

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